

Dunne, Cynthia

From: robert smith <rockyneck1@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 10:42 AM
To: Dunne, Cynthia
Subject: HB6672 - Sec. 10: IN FAVOR

Written
3/25/13

Dear Ms. Dunn:

Please register my testimony and support , "IN FAVOR", of the repeal of the so-called Haddam Land Swap!

Testimony

The State of Connecticut legislature has the opportunity to correct the onerous and odious legislation that is commonly know as the *Haddam Land Swap*. This legislation, which was submitted and spear-headed by former Sen. Eileen Daily, has been universally condemned by the environmental and conservation community. One has to think that Senator Daily was duped into thinking that the proposed deal, which is to be repealed under Section 10, was good for Haddam and East Haddam, and her former district.

When the Riverhouse Properties group backed out of the legislatively approved deal last year, there was a collective sigh of relief from the conservation community AND the legislature; some of whom were forced to vote in favor of what Senator Edward Meyer has called a "dishonorable transaction"! Many legislators and some in the conservation community assumed the matter was closed BUT as members of *Citizens for the Protection of Public Lands (CPPL)* constantly reminded anyone who would listen, "THE DEAL IS NOT DEAD UNTIL THE LEGISLATION CREATING THE "SWAP" IS REPEALED!"

The testimony of Steve Rocco, one of the principles of Riverhouse, against Section 10 of HB 6672 should be a wake-up call to the legislature that this backward and repugnant legislation is not "dead". The SWAP legislation has damaged the credibility of the State of Connecticut and the Department of Energy and ENVIRONMENTAL Protection and by extension all groups engaged in land protection and open space preservation!

Vote YES for Section 10 of HB 6672. Repeal the hateful Haddam Land Swap!

Sincerely,

Robert R. (Rob) Smith

Retired Assistant Director - Connecticut State Park System (DEP)
President - East Haddam Land Trust
Former Executive Director - Citizens for the Protection of Public Land
Acting Chairperson - East Haddam Conservation Commission